

Application Serial
No. 09/804,262

IN THE CLAIMS

1-77 (canceled)

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78. (currently amended) A method comprising:
receiving a current frame comprising a frame
sync segment and a plurality of data segments, wherein
the current frame contains a current map indicating a
location of at least first and second differently coded
data in a first frame, a next map indicating a location
of at least first and second differently coded data in a
second frame, and a count indicating the number of frames
until the next map becomes the current map; and,
processing the at least first and second
differently coded data in the first frame in response to
the current map.

79. (previously presented) The method of
claim 78 wherein the current map, the next map, and the
count are contained in the same segment of the current
frame.

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80. (previously presented) The method of claim 79 wherein the segment containing the current map, the next map, and the count comprises a data segment of the current frame.

81. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 further comprising:

maintaining a count related to when the next map will change to the current map; and,

counting down from the count based on frame times.

82. (previously presented) The method of claim 81 wherein the current map, the next map, and the count are contained in the same segment of the current frame.

83. (previously presented) The method of claim 82 wherein the segment containing the current map, the next map, and the count comprises a data segment of the current frame.

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84. (previously presented) The method of claim 78 wherein the first frame is the current frame, and wherein the second frame is a future frame.

85. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a current frame having a frame sync segment and a plurality of data segments comprising:

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inserting a current map, a next map, and a count into the current frame, wherein the current map indicates a location of at least first and second differently coded data in a first frame, wherein the next map indicates a location of at least first and second differently coded data in a second frame, and wherein the count indicates the number of frames until the next map becomes the current map; and,

transmitting the current frame.

86. (previously presented) The method of claim 85 wherein the current map, the next map, and the count are contained in the same segment of the current frame.

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87. (previously presented) The method of claim 86 wherein the segment containing the current map, the next map, and the count comprises a data segment of the current frame.

88. (previously presented) The method of claim 85 wherein the first frame is the current frame, and wherein the second frame is a future frame.

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89. (currently amended) A method comprising:
receiving a frame comprising first and second fields each having a frame sync segment and a plurality of data segments, wherein the first field contains a current map and count information, wherein the second field contains a next map and count information, wherein the current map indicates location of at least first and second differently coded data in a current frame, wherein the next map indicates location of at least first and second differently coded data in a future frame, and wherein the count information indicates the number of frames until the next map becomes the current map; and,
processing the at least first and second differently coded data in the current frame in response to the current map.

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90. (previously presented) The method of claim 89 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

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91. (previously presented) The method of claim 90 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment.

92. (previously presented) The method of claim 89 further comprising:

maintaining a count related to when the next map will change to the current map; and,

counting down from the count based on frame times.

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93. (previously presented) The method of claim 92 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

94. (previously presented) The method of claim 93 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment.

95. (currently amended) The method of claim 89 wherein the current map further indicates a coding rate for at least one of the first and second differently coded ~~a portion of the~~ data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates a coding rate for at least one of the first and second differently coded ~~a portion of the~~ data in the future frame.

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96. (currently amended) The method of claim 89 wherein the current map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to the at least first and second differently coded ~~portions of the~~ data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to the at least first and second differently coded ~~portions of the~~ data in the future frame.

97. (currently amended) A method of transmitting a frame having first and second fields each having a frame sync segment and a plurality of data segments comprising:

inserting a current map and count information into the first field, wherein the current map indicates location of at least first and second differently coded data in a current frame;

inserting a next map and count information into the second field, wherein the next map indicates location of at least first and second differently coded data in a future frame, and wherein the count information indicates the number of frames until the next map becomes the current map; and,

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transmitting the first and second fields of the frame.

98. (previously presented) The method of claim 97 wherein the current map and count information are contained in the same segment of the first field, and wherein the next map and count information are contained in the same segment of the second field.

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99. (previously presented) The method of claim 97 wherein the segment containing the current map and count information comprises a data segment of the first field, and wherein the segment containing the next map and count information comprises a data segment of the second field.

100. (currently amended) The method of claim 97 wherein the current map further indicates a coding rate for at least one of the first and second differently coded ~~a portion of the~~ data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates a coding rate for at least one of the first and second differently coded ~~a portion of the~~ data in the future frame.

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101. (currently amended) The method of claim 97 wherein the current map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to the at least first and second differently coded ~~portions of the~~ data in the current frame, and wherein the next map further indicates at least first and second coding rates corresponding to the at least first and second differently coded ~~portions of the~~ data in the future frame.
